

B. Remarks Regarding Restriction Requirement

A restriction requirement was issued in a previous communication on June 28, 2005. The restriction was between claims 1-10 (Group I), 11-18 (Group II), and 19-20 (Group III). Because claims 1-20 were cancelled in the Response filed on July 25, 2005, an election between these three groups was not thought to be necessary. Applicants made a *bona fide* attempt to properly respond to this and other restriction requirements in the Response filed on July 25, 2005. It was believed that a new restriction requirement, directed to the new claims, would be necessary so that applicants could later file a divisional application with the non-elected claims.

The Office action indicates that the response filed on July 25, 2005, was incomplete because an election between Groups I, II, or III was not made. Applicants argue that an additional time period under 37 C.F.R. §1.135(c) should be granted because the previous Response was a *bone fide* attempt to respond to all the restriction requirements. Or alternatively, applicants argue that a response to the restriction requirement between Groups I-III was not possible because the claims assigned to those groups were all cancelled. In this case, the Office action should be treated as a new restriction requirement between currently pending claims 21-28.

C. Election

In response to the requirement for election between allegedly distinct inventions indicated as Groups I-III, applicants elect Group III without traverse.

D. Conclusion

Any fees required for this reply, or any other fees necessary during the prosecution of this application now, or in the future, for extensions of time or otherwise, may be charged to the undersigned's deposit account no. 03-1129.

If any issues remain to be resolved in the application before allowance, the examiner is encouraged to telephone the undersigned representative.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'A. Ririe', is written over a horizontal line.

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